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ILLINOIS

An Historical Resume

BY

HORACE H. BANCROFT

Assistant Director Illinois Centennial Celebration

19-2-70



PUBLISHED BY

Illinois Centennial Commission

[Printed by authority of the State of Illinois.]

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An Historical Resume.

THE Mound Builder, the Indian, the Spaniard, the Frenchman, the Englishman and the American have all held dominion over, or claimed title to the territory comprised within the boundary limit of Illinois. Speculation must largely suffice for our knowledge of that pre-historic race which we term the Mound-Builders. The Indian was discovered by the French missionary priest and explorer, and with the coming of the French we have the beginning of civilization in the Mississippi Valley.

In 1673 Father Marquette and Louis Joliet sailed down the Mississippi and up the Illinois, and their advent marked the initial visit of the white man to the Prairie State. LaSalle, the empire builder, whose vision of a new France in the Western Hemisphere fell short of realization, but whose personality and character has left its impress for all time upon the history of the State, came in 1679. His expedition led to the first permanent settlements. Tonty, the Italian, to whom is credited the discovery of coal in the new world, near the present town of Utica, in LaSalle County, accompanied LaSalle and shared with him the rigors and hardships of that early day.

The French Occupation.

The French occupation, by discovery and exploration, began in 1673 and continued until 1765. In the latter year the country passed from French to English control. Little difference, however, occurred in the character or habits of the people, save that a French immigration took place on the part of many who preferred to live under Spanish, rather than British rule. This was accomplished by merely crossing the Mississippi River.

The French missionary priests, who were of the Jesuit and Recollect orders, conducted the earliest Christian services in Illinois. They began the establishment of missions in the territory and sought to give the Indians and scattered white population religious instruction.

On the occasion of his first visit Father Marquette established a mission near Starved Rock, which he named the "Mission of the Immaculate Conception." This mission was afterwards removed to the site of the permanent Kaskaskia on the Mississippi River. Father Gravier came from Canada in 1688 and his labors extended from Mackinac to Biloxi on the Gulf of Mexico. In 1700 a mission and permanent settlement was established at Cahokia, a few miles distant from the present city of East St. Louis. Father Hennepin arrived in Illinois in 1680 and began the exploration of the Upper Mississippi, where he discovered the Falls of St. Anthony, which he named. Father Hennepin was closely associated with LaSalle.

George Rogers Clark Expedition.

The English control was brief, lasting from 1765 to 1778. On July 4, 1778, Col. George Rogers Clark, by a surprise attack, captured Fort Gage in Kaskaskia and later captured Fort Vincennes in Indiana. He took possession of these forts in the name of the Colony of Virginia, as his expedition had been fitted out and aided through the influence of Patrick Henry, then governor of Virginia. The capture of these forts by Clark proved one of the most important events in American history. When peace was declared in 1783 the question of the territory west of the Allegheny Mountains was one of the disputed issues. Benjamin Franklin, one of the peace commissioners for the United States, sitting at the peace table, contended vigorously for the territory conquered by Clark. This territory was conceded by England to the colonies, and the Clark expedition thus becomes responsible for the western boundary of the colonial possessions at the close of the Revolutionary War, which boundary was marked by the Mississippi River instead of by the Allegheny Mountains.

The territory conquered by Clark was first organized as the Illinois County of Virginia. Patrick Henry named Colonel John Todd, county lieutenant or commandant-in-chief, for the county. Later when the Ordinance of 1787 was passed, sometimes called the second Magna Charta, and containing that splendid declaration that, "Religion, Morality and Knowledge, being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged," the Illinois County of Virginia became a part of the great Northwest Territory.

Pioneer Protestant Preachers.

The pioneer Protestant preacher in Illinois was Elder James Smith, a Baptist minister, who came to New Design, now a part of Monroe County, in 1789. Rev. David Badgley and Rev. Joseph Chance followed in 1796, and the first denominational association was formed in 1807 by the Baptists. The Methodists were also among the first of the Protestant sects to hold religious services in Illinois, and these were held in that part of the State known as the American Bottom in 1796. Peter Cartwright was one of the most widely known pioneer Methodist preachers. He was born in 1785 and lived until 1872. He was a conspicuous figure at the early camp meetings and served two terms in the legislature. He was a zealous supporter of the government during the Civil War and for fifty years was a presiding elder in his denomination. In 1814 the Massachusetts Missionary Society sent two missionaries to Illinois. In 1816 the first Presbyterian church was organized at Sharon in White County by the Rev. James McGready of Kentucky. Seth Gard assisted Rev. James Pool in the organization of the Barney's Prairie church in 1819 which was the first church established by the Christian denomination. The Congregationalists began to arrive with the tide of immigration that set in from the east in the thirties. The first Congregational church was organized at Mendon, in

Adams County in 1833. Porter, Turner, Beecher, Sturtevant and Post were well known names among the Congregationalists. In 1834 the first preacher of the Protestant Episcopal church arrived. This was Rev. Philander Chase, afterwards a bishop.

New Design, in Monroe County, is also famous for the fact that the first American school teacher that ever appeared in Illinois, Samuel John Seely, settled there in 1783.

The Issue of Statehood.

Out of the Northwest Territory there was carved five states—Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin. The territorial history of Illinois began in 1809 when the president named Ninian Edwards territorial governor. For nine years Illinois continued as a territory. In 1818, the issue of statehood arose. There was estimated to be forty thousand people within the territory which was a sufficient number at that time for statehood. One of the first questions to settle was the boundary limit of the proposed state. The territory of Illinois was represented at the time by Nathaniel Pope, as territorial delegate. In the bill for statehood it was proposed to mark the northern boundary as established by the Ordinance of 1787. An amendment introduced by Pope changed the northern limits from an east and west line running through the southern extremity of Lake Michigan to an east and west line parallel with 40 degrees and 30 minutes. This amendment gave to the state territory out of which was carved fourteen of the northern counties. Had the original provision remained in the bill, Illinois would have been one of the smaller states of the Union, territorially; fourteen of the northern counties of the State would have belonged to Wisconsin; Illinois would have been without a lake front and Chicago would have been in Wisconsin instead of Illinois. Nathaniel Pope deserves the gratitude of Illinoisans for his stand in the matter of the boundary limits of the state. He wanted a part of Lake Michigan to bound the northern limits, as he believed some day, there would be built upon the shores of Lake Michigan a great city, and he wanted that city to be a part of Illinois. He declared that through the portals of this great city there would come to Illinois, the eastern people and the eastern civilization. Cairo and Shawneetown were the ports of entry in southern Illinois, for the people and civilization of the South. With an adequate port of entry on the North, there would meet on the prairies of Illinois, the best blood of the East and the South. With these two forces of American civilization within the state, one would act as a check upon the other, and in the event of a settlement of the issue of human slavery the State of Illinois would under all circumstances remain in the Union. How literally true was this vision of Nathaniel Pope. We do well to honor his memory in this Centennial Year.

Constitutional Convention Held.

The Enabling Act fixing the present boundary limits of Illinois was passed April 18, 1818. The next step in the process of state-

hood required the calling of a Constitutional Convention. This Convention met August 3, 1818 at Kaskaskia. It was composed of thirty-three delegates. There were fifteen counties in the state at the time, twelve of these counties were given two delegates each, three of the counties three delegates each. The Convention organized by electing Jesse Burgess Thomas, as chairman, and William C. Greenup as secretary. One of the dominant characters of the Convention was Elias Kent Kane, after whom Kane County was named, and a man who held many offices of trust and responsibility in the early history of the State. Jesse Burgess Thomas became one of the first United States senators, and is known in history as the author of the Missouri Compromise. The Convention completed its labors and adjourned August 26, 1818.

Following the adoption of the constitution, election for state officers was held and Shadrach Bond became the first governor. He was inaugurated October 6, 1818 and proved a safe leader for the new regime. He is buried at Chester, Randolph County, where the state has erected a monument to his memory. On the monument is inscribed this tribute: "Governor Bond filled many offices of trust and importance all with integrity and honor." On December 3d, 1818, Illinois was admitted to the Union as a State. In 1820 the seat of government was moved from Kaskaskia to Vandalia, which became the second capital of the State.

Governor Edward Coles.

The second governor was Edward Coles. He was a highly educated and cultured gentleman. He had been a slave holder, but freed his slaves as he crossed the boundary line of Illinois, coming from Virginia. In the early part of his administration, an effort was made to change the constitution, in order to legalize slavery. Governor Coles led the fight against this movement, with energy and courage, and prevented the calling of a second Constitutional Convention by the proponents of slavery in 1824. He was ably supported by such men as Daniel P. Cook, after whom Cook County was named, Judge Samuel D. Lockwood, George Flower, Morris Birkbeck and others. To Governor Coles the people owe a great debt of gratitude for the fact that the stain of human slavery was kept from the fair record of Illinois.

In the year 1825 the legislature of the new state passed the first free school law. This bill was introduced by Senator Joseph Duncan, afterwards Governor of the state. The year is also historic for the fact that General LaFayette then on a tour of the United States visited Kaskaskia on April 30th.

Ninian Edwards was the third governor. He is described as a fine specimen of the "Old School Gentleman" of that period. He had been governor nearly all of the territorial period, was one of the first United States senators and was Minister to Mexico under President Monroe. Hooper Warren, the pioneer printer, enjoyed the close friendship of Edwards.

Period of the Black Hawk War.

The only war to occur within the borders of Illinois was the Black Hawk War. This was in the early thirties, during the administration of Governor Reynolds. This war is remarkable for the fact that two men participated in it who afterwards became president—Zachary Taylor and Abraham Lincoln. Three men were officers in this war who afterwards became governor—Ford, Carlin and Duncan. Jefferson Davis and Abraham Lincoln first met in the Black Hawk War. Joseph E. Johnston and Albert Sydney Johnston participated in this war as did also General Winfield Scott. Major Anderson, who defended Fort Sumter, was a recruiting officer in this war. The Black Hawk War becomes interesting, therefore, because of the many participants, who at the time, or afterwards, became prominent.

Governor Joseph Duncan.

The fifth governor of Illinois was Joseph Duncan, governor from 1834 to 1838. It is said that more men of prominence entered public life during his administration than have ever entered in any similar length of time in the history of the State. Among the number may be mentioned Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas; General James Shields, the only man who served three states as senator, namely—Illinois, Minnesota and Missouri; Col. E. D. Baker, afterwards senator from Oregon, the brilliant orator, the man who introduced Abraham Lincoln to the audience at Washington after he was inaugurated, and who fell at the Battle of Balls Bluff, mortally wounded; O. H. Browning, cabinet officer and United States Senator; both of the Logans, one the father of General John A. Logan; Col. John J. Hardin, the hero of the Battle of Buena Vista. These are among the men who entered public life at this time. Governor Duncan enjoys the distinction of being the only governor who was presented with a gold handled sword by Congress. This gift was a present from the Congress in the year 1835, in recognition of bravery on the part of Ensign Duncan in the War of 1812, at the defense of Fort Stephenson.

Duncan was a soldier in the War of 1812, a state senator in 1825, represented the state three times in Congress and was governor. He died at the age of fifty and on his death bed he called his friends to his bedside and left them this message: "My friends, let me beseech you to drop everything until you have made your peace with God. There is nothing in the pleasures of the world, there is nothing in the wealth of the world, there is nothing in the honors of the world, to compare with the love of the Saviour shed abroad in the human heart." With this message upon his lips, the life of Governor Duncan went out, and from the past this message comes down to us today as one of the brightest spots in the life story of one of Illinois' leaders in those early days of the thirties. It is a message that deserves to be classed in the same category with that great message of Abraham Lincoln, delivered from the back platform of a Wabash train, as he was leaving Springfield to assume the presidency.

The State Capital Changed.

In the third year of the Duncan administration, the State Capital was changed from Vandalia to Springfield where a capitol building costing \$240,000 was erected. The building is now the Sangamon County Court House. The erection of the present State Capitol building was begun in 1867 and completed in 1887. The total cost of construction and furnishing was a little in excess of \$4,000,000. It is one of the tallest public buildings in use in the world. The murder of Lovejoy, the great anti-slavery leader and advocate of a free press, occurred at Alton in 1837, and stirred the commonwealth from center to circumference.

Supreme Court Reorganized.

Thomas Carlin followed Duncan as governor. During his administration the Supreme Court of the State was reorganized and five additional judges were appointed. The reorganization was the result of a partisan controversy that grew out of a difference of opinion on the question of suffrage of aliens. Stephen A. Douglas and Lyman Trumbull served as Secretary of the State under Carlin.

Thomas Ford became governor of Illinois in 1842. The State was in financial chaos at that time due to a scheme of internal improvements begun in 1837 and endorsed by the leading men of all parties at that time. Many of these improvements turned out to be monuments to folly. There were many who favored repudiation of the State's debt at this time and openly encouraged it. As Governor Coles led in the opposition to slavery, so Governor Ford led in the opposition to repudiation. He declared that the stigma of repudiation should never stain the fair name of Illinois while he was governor. He led the people along the hard road of financial embarrassment and pointed the way out. His name deserves to be honored for his bold and courageous stand that saved the financial honor of the young State. The Mormon question was one of the difficulties that confronted the Ford administration and it was at this time that the Mormons decided to leave Illinois.

Constitution of 1848.

Governor French was the first governor to succeed himself, serving from 1846 to 1852. This was due to the fact that a new constitution was adopted in 1848 which cut the first term of Governor French short two years. In 1848 he was re-elected for the four year term with little opposition.

Newton Cloud, of Morgan County, was elected president of the second Constitutional Convention of the State of Illinois and the document is famous for its preamble, which was written by Judge Samuel D. Lockwood. This preamble has been re-written into the Constitution of 1870, and it is to be hoped that it will forever adorn the opening paragraph of any basic law that the people of the commonwealth may adopt.

The preamble reads as follows:

"We, the people of the State of Illinois, grateful to Almighty God for the civil, political and religious liberty which He hath so long

permitted us to enjoy and looking to Him for a blessing upon our endeavors to secure and transmit the same unimpaired to succeeding generations, in order to form a more perfect government, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare and secure the blessing of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the State of Illinois."

The act incorporating the Illinois Central Railroad was passed in 1851, which was during Governor French's administration.

Joel A. Matteson was chosen governor in 1852. John Reynolds who had been governor, supreme court judge, and congressman, was elected speaker of the General Assembly. The Decatur Editorial Convention, called by Paul Selby of Jacksonville, and marking the birth of the Republican party in Illinois, was held in 1856. The state debt was much reduced during the Matteson administration.

The Lincoln-Douglas Debates.

The year 1858 is a significant year in the history of Illinois, marking the period of the Lincoln-Douglas debates. This year witnessed the greatest forensic contest that has ever taken place in the history of Illinois. When these seven great debates, held at Ottawa, Freeport, Jonesboro, Charleston, Galesburg, Quincy and Alton had their beginning, the spotlight of popular favor played over the face of Stephen A. Douglas, but when they closed, the halo of light illuminated the rugged countenance of Abraham Lincoln. Three years later, when Douglas took his stand by the side of Lincoln, and held his silk hat and gold-headed cane, while Lincoln took the oath of office as President, the spotlight of popular favor again played over the faces of both Lincoln and Douglas, where it has remained from that day to this, destined to grow brighter with the years.

These debates were held while William H. Bissell served the state as its chief executive. His administration marked the beginning of the control of the state government by the Republican party, which lasted for a period of thirty-six years, or until the administration of Governor Altgeld in 1893. Governor Bissell died during the last year of his term of office and Lieutenant Governor John Wood filled out the unexpired term.

The Civil War Period.

Richard Yates was the Civil War Governor of Illinois, and he proved himself to be one of the great war governors of the time. His prorogation of the General Assembly is a significant and unusual event in the political history of the State and Nation. He endeared himself to the private soldier because of his solicitude for the welfare of the Illinois troops. He gave General Grant his first commission and his conduct was intensely loyal at all times.

The Civil War history of Illinois stands out resplendent in the fact that the state furnished Abraham Lincoln, who saved the Union, and Ulysses S. Grant, who organized the Union Army into victory.

Illinois is credited with twelve major generals, namely: Grant, Logan, Oglesby, Palmer, McClelland, Schofield, Hurlbut, Grierson, Pope, Smith, Merritt and Prentiss; twenty brevet major generals and twenty-four brigadier generals. The State furnished 256,000 men for the defense of the Union, over fifteen per cent of its population. These were divided among 151 regiments of infantry, 17 of cavalry, 2 of artillery and nine independent batteries.

One of the gems of literature is Lincoln's Farewell Address, delivered in Springfield as he was leaving to assume the presidency. At that time he spoke these words: "My friends, no one, not in my situation, can appreciate my feeling of sadness at this parting. To this place and the kindness of these people, I owe everything. Here I have lived a quarter of a century, and have passed from a young to an old man. Here my children have been born and one is buried. I now leave, not knowing when or whether ever I may return, with a task before me greater than that which rested upon Washington. Without the assistance of that Divine Being who ever attended him, I cannot succeed. With that assistance, I cannot fail. Trusting in Him who can go with me and remain with you, and be everywhere for good, let us confidently hope that all will yet be well. To His care commending you, as I hope in your prayers you will commend me, I bid you an affectionate farewell."

Washington and Lincoln were two of the greatest characters that ever stood in the forefront of a nation's life. We would not detract one scintilla from their human greatness, but we like to think of them as being great because of the fact that they were in their supreme moments the resplendent reflection of that Greater Being, that Higher Power, by whom they were guided and whose counsel they sought.

Illinoisans will ever hold in memory the words of General Grant spoken at the close of the great internecine struggle, "let us have peace," and the World War has given us another four words to remember, those spoken by General Pershing at that tomb in France, "LaFayette here we are."

Four songs were written by Illinois composers during the Civil War that became famous war songs. They were "Tramp, Tramp, Tramp, the Boys Are Marching," "The Battle Cry of Freedom," and "Just Before the Battle Mother," by Root and "Marching Through Georgia" by Work. "Illinois," by Chamberlain, is one of the best known of state songs.

Loyal Women of Illinois.

The loyal women of Illinois have ever been by their devotion and service an inspiration. The Civil War period gave marked evidence of their worth. Mother Bickerdyke of Galesburg, the Civil War nurse, in whose memory the State of Illinois has erected a monument costing \$5,000, is one of the noblest examples of service and sacrifice that the annals of history records. Her achievements were as unique as they were grand. She ranks with Clara Barton, Dorothy Dix, Florence Nightingale, in unselfish and heroic service. Mary A. Livermore, the only woman reporter present at

the Wigwam Convention which nominated Lincoln, was at the head of the western department of the Sanitary Commission, one of the great philanthropic agencies of the Civil War. Later Mrs. Livermore became one of the great woman orators and lecturers of the country. No history of Illinois would be complete without the mention of the name of Frances Willard, the great temperance worker and leader. The State has placed a statue of Miss Willard in Statuary Hall at the National Capitol in Washington.

Women of Illinois can take pride in the fact that the Ladies' Educational Society, organized in Jacksonville in the thirties, was the first organization of women, officered by women, not only in the United States but in the world. The women of Illinois have been and are today, doers whose deeds illuminate the story of the State.

The Constitution of 1870.

In 1870 Illinois adopted its third constitution, when seventy-five delegates elected by the people drafted a new basic law for the commonwealth. George Hitchcock, a prominent Chicago attorney, was elected president of this Constitutional Convention. The Convention met during the administration of John M. Palmer and, as governor, he assisted in framing the executive article of the Constitution, and his counsel and advice were frequently sought by the delegates. This Constitution has served well the purposes of the people of the State. The last legislature passed a resolution proposing the calling of another Constitutional Convention and the people will pass upon this proposition at the election to be held November 5th.

In 1871 the great City of Chicago was visited by a most disastrous fire, which brought sorrow and suffering, and great financial loss to the metropolis of the West. The rapidity with which the people of the State, and other states, rallied to the support of the stricken inhabitants, was a splendid commentary upon the spirit of the people, and upon the ability of the people, to repair their shattered homes and their broken fortunes.

World's Fair at Chicago.

The World's Columbian Exposition of 1893, held in Chicago, commemorating the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America, will ever stand out not only as one of the great enterprises in the history of Illinois, but as one of the greatest commemorative expositions that has ever been held in the history of the world.

Illinois came into the Union as the twenty-first state, with an estimated population of forty thousand. Today the population numbers nearly six million and Illinois stands as the keystone state in the richest and most powerful nation on the globe. As a state it is one of the most level of the entire Union, and is one of the best watered, having over two hundred and eighty-four water courses on its surface. In proportion to its area, which is 56,650 square miles, it has more land under cultivation than any other state. In 1917 it led the Union among the states in the production of farm products.

Its great underground wealth, consisting principally of coal and oil, has contributed to its greatness from an industrial standpoint. But great as the state is, and has been, from a material standpoint, the wealth of Illinois is not confined to material things. It has given to the nation educators, philanthropists, statesmen, soldiers, and a citizenship that has adorned the pages of history throughout the decades. William Jennings Bryan enjoys the distinction of being the only native of Illinois ever nominated for the presidency.

Land Grant College Bill.

The Land Grant College Bill, the first Civil Rights Bill signed by Abraham Lincoln in 1862 and introduced in Congress by Justin S. Morrill was drawn by Jonathan Baldwin Turner, one of the founders of the University of Illinois, and whose outline for industrial and mechanical education upon which this bill was based, can be found in the proceedings of the Granville Convention, a convention of farmers held in Putnam County in 1851. The state Universities of the country owe their origin to the Land Grant College Bill.

Newton Bateman, known as the Horace Mann of the West, was seven times superintendent of public instruction in the state of Illinois, and is known as the founder of our present public school system. His seven biennial reports have been translated into five foreign languages. Bateman, the first time he ran for state superintendent, was opposed by two ex-governors, Governor French and Governor Reynolds.

The collegiate history of Illinois is one of the great facts in its development, and within its territory are thirty-nine colleges, and five State normal schools. The first colleges to receive a charter were granted their rights in 1835 and three schools were chartered under this act, namely Illinois College, Shurtleff College and McKendree College. Illinois College was the first institution in the State to graduate a collegiate class which was in 1835.

The railroad history of Illinois is without parallel in the Union and the state has the greatest railroad mileage of any of the forty-eight commonwealths. The railroad history of the state and the Mississippi Valley had its beginning in 1837, when a line was projected east from the Illinois River at Meredosia, running through Jacksonville and terminating at Springfield. This was known as the Northern Cross Railroad.

The first newspaper published in Illinois was the "Illinois Herald" published at Kaskaskia. Authorities differ as to the date of the first issue, but it was probably about 1814. The Herald was established by Matthew Duncan, a brother of Governor Duncan. The name was afterwards changed to The Intelligencer. The second paper was the Shawnee Chief, published at Shawneetown. The Sangamo Journal, now the "Illinois State Journal," the oldest paper of continuous existence in the State, published its first issue November 10, 1831. There are now published in Illinois 172 daily and 1,039 weekly newspapers.

Governors Since the Civil War.

The mere mention of the names of the governors of Illinois since the Civil War is enough to attest to the great leadership that the people have had. The roll is a glorious one with Oglesby, Palmer, Beveridge, Cullom, Hamilton, Fifer, Altgeld, Tanner, Yates, Deneen, Dunne and Lowden. From Yates to Yates, the governors of Illinois have all been veterans of the Civil War with the exception of Shelby M. Cullom. History is repeating itself in Illinois in the Centennial Year. As in the crisis of the Civil War Douglas led a loyal following of Democrats to the support of Abraham Lincoln, a Republican president, so Governor Frank O. Lowden in the crisis of the World's War is safely leading a loyal following of Republicans in support of President Wilson, a Democratic president, in the conflict that he has on his hands. This is as it should be.

In 1861, Illinois gave to the nation its peerless leader, Abraham Lincoln, in 1918, Illinois joins with the nation in giving the world, Abraham Lincoln and the principles of Democracy for which he stood, and of which he was the great exponent. The state has already furnished 280,000 men for the United States Army and thousands of others have registered for service. Its six million people stand ready to make any sacrifice, that may be necessary to support and strengthen this great force, to the end that victory may come to the Allied arms.

Respect, Reverence and Gratitude.

Ennobled by the thought of the sacrifice and service of the pioneers and great men of the past, who have led the state, Illinois is passing through its Centennial Year, conscious of the fact that "Patriotism is a blind and irrational impulse unless accompanied by a knowledge of the blessings that we enjoy and the privileges that we propose to defend." With respect, reverence and gratitude for the past, we come to the present, recognizing that upon the foundation of the Christian Church, the Christian College, the Christian Home and the Free School rest our power and the beneficence of our institutions. May Illinois begin her second century with new strength and new courage, and go forward with a spirit of enthusiasm and confidence, that will lead in the pathway of real progress, to greater heights of accomplishment and power in the days to come.

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